

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

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SUBJECT Dismissals of Judges and Prosecutors

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1. A number of dismissals of judges and prosecutors of the East Berlin Courts occurred in December 1952, and subsequently; most of these were on stated grounds of the official's former Western connections. A number of those dismissed are Jews. This action is in line with the policy which has developed in the east zone that all except true-line Socialist Unity Party (SED) judges and prosecutors are to be eliminated in the general party purge; particularly where any Western connection, however remote, exists, or the person is a Jew.
2. Judges dismissed are:  
 Hans Einhorn, district court president and SED member; grounds unknown.  
 Dr. Götz Berger, president of the political criminal court; SED member; relatives in England.  
 Albert Plötz, president of the court of appeal, criminal senate; SED member; resigned.  
 Leonhard Michaleck, second criminal court; SED member; grounds unknown.  
 Fuhrmann (fnu), criminal court president; SED member; grounds unknown.  
 Karl Waak, SED member; grounds unknown.  
 Rustau (fnu), court of appeals justice; SED member; grounds unknown.  
 Reinhold Bach, People's Court judge (Volksrichter), president of the SED professional group; known for severe sentences; grounds unknown.  
 Also the People's Court judges Tübbecke (fnu), Krug (fnu), and Knappe (fnu), all SED members.
3. All of the above named judges were active and loyal SED people. Knappe and Bach belonged to the Union of Those Persecuted by the Nazi Régime (VVN).
4. The presidents of the two civil Senates of the east-zone court of Appeal, Dr. Schindler (fnu) and Ebelt (fnu), were also dismissed. Schindler is a Jew. These two, together with the lower-court judge, Dr. Gröpke (fnu), who was also dismissed, were regarded as under Western influences.

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## 6. Public prosecutors dismissed:

Heinz Baer; was American prisoner of war.  
Ludwig Paque; was French prisoner of war.  
Bartsch (fnu); grounds unknown.  
Heinz Beetz; was American and British prisoner of war.  
Fritz Budde; grounds unknown.

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Margarete Fröhlich [REDACTED]  
Hans Malutski; American prisoner of war.  
Günter Ostheeren, chief prosecutor; American prisoner of war.  
Friedrich Reinhardt; French prisoner of war.  
Arnold Weggen; Yugoslav prisoner of war.

7. All of the above except Ostheeren and Malutski were SED members. Max Berger, the former chief prosecutor for East Berlin, has lost his position during the reorganization, and is now a simple assistant.

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